



International Civil Aviation Organization

**SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS/NAVIGATION/SURVEILLANCE AND
METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP (CNS/MET SG/16) OF APANPIRG**

Bangkok, Thailand, 23 – 27 July 2012

Agenda Item 11: Meteorological advisories and warnings

- 3) implementation of advisories and warnings - aerodrome warnings (including tsunami) - SIGMET for radioactive clouds - wind shear alerts & warnings

UPDATE ON GUIDANCE FOR RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper provides an update on the progress of developing Asia/Pacific regional guidance for radioactive material.

This paper relates to -

Strategic Objectives

A: Safety - *Enhance global civil aviation safety*

C: Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of Air Transport - *Foster harmonized and economically viable development of international civil aviation that does not unduly harm the environment*

Global Plan Initiatives:

GPI-18 Aeronautical information

GPI-19 Meteorological Systems

1. Introduction

1.1 APANPIRG Conclusion 20/69 called for consideration of Annex 3 provisions and further guidance on the issuance of SIGMET on radioactive cloud. The International Airways Volcano Watch Operations Group (IAVWOPSG) determined that additional standards were not necessary (IAVWOPSG/5 D5/23 refers) and that guidance be included in Part II of the Manual on Volcanic Ash, Radioactive Material and Toxic Chemical Clouds (Doc 9691) (IAVWOPSG/5 C5/24 refers).

1.2 Since SIGMET on radioactive cloud is in the current provisions, CNS/MET SG/15 decided to task the METWARN/1 TF to develop regional guidance material in consultation with the IAVWOPSG and WMO for the issuance of RDOACT CLD SIGMET:

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Decision 15/33 – Guidance on Radioactive Cloud

That, the METWARN/I TF be tasked to continue its efforts to develop guidance material in appropriate Regional Guidance Document (i.e. SIGMET Guide or Contingency Plan) in consultation with the IAVWOPSG and WMO for the issuance of RDOACT CLD SIGMET

2. Discussion

2.1 In relation to Contingency Plan, the development of a framework on contingency plans that includes phenomenon of volcanic ash, tropical cyclone, tsunami and **radioactive cloud** is included in the terms of reference of the METWARN/I TF and is discussed further in WP/37 - *Update on regional Contingency Plan*.

2.2 In relation to guidance provided in the Asia/Pacific regional SIGMET Guide, the METWARN/I TF/1 produced amendments in July 2011 that included, inter alia, the addition of an example of SIGMET on radioactive cloud (in Appendix G).

2.3 The meeting may recall that IAVWOPSG/6 (September 2011) deliberations on improved notification concerning the accidental release of radioactive material into the atmosphere concluded that ad-hoc groups should continue with tasks identified to address the key issues concerning the importance, complexity and lack of expertise on radioactive clouds:

Conclusion 6/29 — Provision of information on radioactive material released into the atmosphere:

That, an ad-hoc group consisting of Canada (Rapporteur), Australia, France, Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States, IATA and WMO:

- a) develop a concept of operations on how best to provide information on radioactive cloud in support of international air navigation;*
- b) continue to assess the provision of information and guidance on radioactive material released into the atmosphere (as provided in Appendices K to P to the IAVWOPSG/6 report);*
- c) consult with the WMO (nuclear Emergency Response Activities Coordination Group including IAEA) and evaluate the possible role of RSMCs in the provision of guidance as identified in the concept of operations;*
- d) review the provisions of Annex 3 and Doc 9691 regarding radioactive material and report back on any proposed changes;*
- e) report back to IAVWOPSG/7; and*

Conclusion 6/30 — Alternative provisions for radiological cloud information for international air navigation:

That, an ad-hoc group consisting of Canada (Rapporteur), the United States, IATA and WMO be tasked to:

- a) study alternative provisions for radiological cloud information to replace the RDOACT SIGMET from MWOs, which can be provided by regional or world centre(s) which possess the necessary expertise and capability to provide timely and accurate information on the radioactive cloud for international air navigation; and*
- b) report back to IAVWOPSG/7.*

2.4 The full report from IAVWOPSG/6 is available at the following website:
<http://www.icao.int/safety/meteorology/iavwopsg/Pages/default.aspx>

2.5 In light of the above, it is expected that further development of regional guidance material for the issuance of RDOACT CLD SIGMET will depend on consideration of the outcomes from the IAVWOPSG.

3. Action by the Meeting

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to:
- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
 - b) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.
